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GENERAL STAFF, UNITED STATES ARMY WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

CSGID 381 USSR

18 January 1949

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, R & E, CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

SUBJECT: Possible Developments in Soviet Policy Toward Austria (ORE 28-49).

- 1. Reference is made to CIA Memorandum, subject as above, dated 14 January 1949.
- 2. The Intelligence Division, Department of the Army, concurs with subject study with the following comments:
- a. It is suggested that consideration be given to the possibility of a Soviet-inspired revolutionary attempt against the present government timed to occur immediately after occupational troops withdraw from Austria. The principal armed subversive organization, the Werkschutz, is even now being strengthened, and the capabilities of the Austrian Government to maintain itself against such an attempted coup would be relatively low during the period named. An examination by the Central Intelligence Agency of the possibility that the Soviets intend to take such a step would be of great interest and value to the Intelligence Division.

b. Several times within subject paper a possible Soviet blockade of Vienna is described as "entailing a risk of war." This appears to us to be debatable.

FOR THE DIRECTOR OF INTELLIGENCE:

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GEORGE S. SMITH

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Chief, Intelligence Group